

# Robyn Arthur

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## **Bio**

I grew up in Leavenworth, Kansas as an only child and had a bug for travel and exploration from an early age. I graduated from Boston University with a B.S. in Environmental Analysis and Policy. After graduation, I spent the summer as an environmental education intern at a nature center in Northern Wisconsin. There I realized I loved being outside, teaching people about nature and working in the not-for-profit world. Instead of law school, I started working for another environmental education organization who had offices in Kansas City and San Francisco, so I spent a couple of years traveling back and forth, working in schools, teaching kids about environmental sustainability even before it was cool. I also spent the summers leading backpacking trips in the western part of the US and Puerto Rico.

After a few years of not-for-profit living and supplementing my income with various odd jobs from waitressing to ropes course facilitator, I interviewed for a job at Woodward Clyde. I was hired as a Communications Specialist to help rollout the new Public Involvement Program to KDOT. I spent my first six months driving around to all the KDOT Districts conducting trainings on Public Involvement and why and how KDOT needs to do it. I spent the next four years working at Woodward Clyde/URS Greiner/URS providing PI services for clients like KDOT, MoDOT, ODOT, ACOE, and cities and counties in the area.

In 2002, I moved to HNTB as a Public Involvement Manager, and for the next several years I managed the engagement activities on various KDOT and Kansas projects. I have led the outreach efforts for several of KDOT's statewide planning initiatives and worked to gather public and stakeholder input on numerous complex projects. Most recently, I managed all aspects of the communications program for KDOT's largest design-build transportation project, the Johnson County Gateway. I am currently the Public Involvement Director for HNTB's Kansas Metro Office, which oversees work in Kansas, Missouri, Iowa and Oklahoma.

I am married with one 10-year old son. We live in the west Brookside area of KC, MO. (I can see Kansas from my house.) I volunteer on the board at my son's school and attend his various sporting events and school activities. I still love to travel, snow ski and spend time at the lake.

**Fun fact about you that will be surprising/interesting to your classmates!**

One of my odd jobs was as a fake patient for med school students to practice their bedside manner and communication skills.

**Favorite quote**

When it is all said and done the only thing that matters is how you treat people. That is what people will remember about you. (not sure who said it or where I found it.)

**My job would be a lot easier if**

people took the time to listen to each other and trusted the process.